

Welcome to the Legislative Update for August 28, 2009

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. This information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. *The Legislative Update is non-partisan in nature.* Thank you for your interest!

Due to the lack of up-to-the-minute news to share, this week's issue of the Legislative Update is brief.

G ENERAL OVERVIEW:

2010 Budget:

On Tuesday, the House and Senate adjourned (sine die) ending the Third Special Session. The Governor now has until September 5th to consider those budget bills presented to her last week. The likelihood of signoff on the eight bills is still not known at this time. You can view the budget package (H2006; H2008; H2009; H2010; H2011; H2012; H2013; H2014; S1025) at the 3rd Special Session link below.

3rd Special Session List:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=471&listid=16365&print=true>

Note:

As soon as we have the 2010 budget, the Legislative Update will be provided *monthly* with a federal focus until the legislative session begins in January.

You can contact your policymakers. If you have a particular perspective to share, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

Governor's Office of Constituent Services at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 800-253-0883

Or you may **contact the legislator from your area**. If you do not know how to reach your local legislator, start at the homepage under *How do I find My Legislators* or follow the instructions provided at both the Senate and House Member links at the website.

Arizona State Legislature website: **<http://www.azleg.gov/>**

FEDERAL LEGISLATION:

No Federal Legislation updates to report at this time. Both the Senate and the House return on September 8, 2009.

If you want more information specific to any bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

Contact Your Congressional Member: If you are interested in Congressional bills or wish to share your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House or <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the Senate.

Other News:

This week HHS Secretary Sebelius released a report on seniors and health insurance reform. For more information, go to:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/08/20090827a.html>

National Falls Prevention Week is September 20-26 and **National Falls Prevention Day** is September 22nd. For resources from NCOA, visit:

<http://www.healthyagingprograms.org/content.asp?sectionid=149>

Note: If you're interested in the Arizona Falls Prevention Coalition, call our office at 602-542-4710.

A coalition in Southwest Pennsylvania has drafted a guide for what they see as the ideal long term living system. To review, go to:

http://www.swppa.org/pdf_docs/SWPPA_futures_card.pdf

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

What: Banner Alzheimer's Institute's 6th Annual conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia in Native Americans, "Weaving the Old with the New: Challenges, Solutions and Hope for Caregivers"

When: September 18, 2009, Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel in Tucson; the conference is free of charge but registration *is required*.

For more information: Call Filmer Lallo, Coordinator for the Native American Program at Banner Alzheimer's Institute; phone number (602) 239-6858

WHAT: 18th Annual NACOG AAA Conference Creating Caring Communities for Seniors: Aging Well

WHEN: Wednesday, September 30, 2009, 8:30 - 4:30 pm, High Country Conference Center, 201 West Butler Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

For more formation or to register,

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/RegistrationBrochure.pdf>

WHAT: Together We Care: Arizona Conference on Caregiving

WHEN: Thursday, November 5, 2009, North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85012

For more information, email: cleary@gatewaycc.edu or call (602) 286-8153

WHAT: 2nd Annual West Valley Senior Games provided by West Valley Recreation

WHEN: Saturday, November 21, 2009, 7:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m., Friendship Park, 12325 W. McDowell Rd., Avondale AZ 85323

Pre-Registration required; registration forms available online at: **<http://www.westvalleyrecreation.com/>** or call (623-333-2413 for general information.

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, you can do so by sending an email with the description to: **gaca@az.gov**. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

Thank you and have a great week!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging